

I am appointing Mr. John Mica of Florida to be my designee as provided for in Public Law 100-696 Section 801 (40 USC para 188a (c)).

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

VERNON J. EHLERS,
Chairman, Joint Committee on the Library.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES CAPITOL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection and pursuant to Section 801(b) of Public Law 100-696, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission:

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina;

Mr. LATOURETTE of Ohio.

There was no objection.

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT NEEDED

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, Congress needs to adopt a Medicare prescription drug benefit, rather than making false promises to American seniors.

The Republican plan will not guarantee affordable prescription drug coverage for our seniors. The Republican plan takes its first step toward privatizing Medicare, forcing seniors to deal with private insurance companies.

Those of us can remember what happened in California when they said that we would have plenty of energy. We deregulated, and yet we do not have the energy, yet the prices continued to go up.

We do not want prices to go up for a lot of our seniors. More than one-third of the 35 million Medicare beneficiaries currently have no prescription drug insurance coverage.

I did a study in my district that shows that seniors are being impoverished by drug prices. San Bernardino seniors pay an average of 90 percent more than seniors in Canada and Mexico.

Individuals should not be sacrificing their fixed income for the sake of protecting themselves instead of spending it on leisure or other items. What they have to do now is budget themselves. It becomes very difficult, and yet they do not want to continue to suffer.

I plan to have a press conference on prescription drugs on June 18 at the Rancho Cucamonga Senior Citizens Center from 8 a.m. to 12 noon to address these needs.

I ask that we adopt affordable, voluntary, reliable Medicare prescription drug coverage for all seniors. It is our responsibility to protect them. It is America's responsibility to see that they can all afford medical coverage.

WILLIAM HOLMES BROWN, FORMER PARLIAMENTARIAN OF HOUSE PASSES

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I am saddened today to announce to our colleagues the passing on May 27 of William Holmes Brown, who served as parliamentarian of the House from 1974 to 1994. He was 71 years of age. Not only did I have the pleasure of working with Bill Brown in the House, but I was also privileged to be his Congressman. He lived at Oakland Green Farm in Lincoln in Loudoun County, Virginia, property which had been in the family for more than eight generations.

Bill began his service in the Parliamentarian's Office in 1958 when he was appointed Assistant Parliamentarian by Speaker Sam Rayburn. In 1974, he was named to the position of Parliamentarian by Speaker Carl Albert. He succeeded the legendary Lewis Deschler, with whom he had collaborated in volumes of "Precedents of the House of Representatives," referred to in the House as the Deschler-Brown Precedents. During his years in the House, he served under six Speakers. Besides Speaker Sam Rayburn and Carl Albert, he served under John McCormack, Tip O'Neill, Jim Wright, and Tom Foley. He retired from the House in 1994.

During his service in the House, he worked to develop parliamentary projects in newly emerging democratic republics in Eastern Europe, participating in seminars and training programs for representatives of other national legislative bodies. After he retired as Parliamentarian in 1994, he worked for the Agency of International Development on a parliamentary development project in the Ukraine.

Members today can thank Bill Brown and thank his staff, many here today, for organizing the Office of the Parliamentarian, moving it into the Computer Age and making the House precedents available online for all to access.

Bill was the ultimate professional and dedicated public servant. He was held in the highest regard by Members on both sides of the aisle because his work reflected his dedication to the proposition that the rules of the House should be applied and enforced without political considerations.

Bill was born in Huntington, West Virginia. He was a 1951 graduate of Swarthmore College and received his law degree from the University of Chicago. He served on active duty in the Navy from 1954 to 1957 and then served in the Naval Reserve from 1954 to 1974, retiring as a lieutenant commander.

He was director of the Conversations at Oatlands organization and the Loudoun Museum and a member of the Catocin Farmers Club and Goose Creek Friends Meeting.

On behalf of the House, and on behalf of Members on both sides of the aisle,

and on behalf of Members who served here many, many years ago, Madam Speaker, we send our deepest sympathies to Bill's wife of 30 years, Jean Smith Brown, and their daughter, Sara Holmes Brown.

RESIGNATION OF THE PARLIAMENTARIAN, THE HONORABLE WM. HOLMES BROWN, AND APPOINTMENT OF THE HONORABLE CHARLES W. JOHNSON AS PARLIAMENTARIAN

(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SEPTEMBER 20, 1994)

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives, which was read:

Hon. THOMAS S. FOLEY,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: In March of this year, I completed my thirty-sixth year with the House of Representatives. In July, I completed my twentieth year as Parliamentarian.

In the past few months, circumstances, both personal and professional, have focused my attention on retirement. It has been a difficult decision to reach, but I have concluded that it's time for a change.

The office which I have been privileged to hold continues to be both challenging and rewarding. It is fascinating to encounter—almost daily—fresh interpretations of rules and bill language which require constant evaluation of yesterday's assumptions and conclusions. The House changes from year to year, with new Members and staff and circumstances always reshaping this institution; what does not change is the reservoir of intellect and inventiveness which characterizes those who work in the legislative branch of our government. Daily interaction with such talented people makes the congress a uniquely fascinating place to work.

I could not have done this job without a lot of help, without the love and support of my family, who have learned to live with long hours and erratic schedules; without the teamwork at the rostrum and in all the support offices of the House; without the reservoir of personal commitment and professional strength from my colleagues in the Office. Among the deputy and the assistant parliamentarians there is a wealth of experience and talent. Their accumulated service totals over 80 years. Each is dedicated to the proposition that the rules of this great institution should be applied and enforced without political considerations. All are open to Members and staff with respect to the rules and precedents which govern and guide the deliberations of the House and its committees. They are all exemplary public servants; they can and will continue to carry out the responsibilities of the Office in a manner which reflects the best traditions of the House. We share a lasting bond and I will miss these friends whom I admire and care for so deeply.

I owe a great debt of gratitude to all the Speakers whom I have been fortunate to know: Sam Rayburn, who first appointed me as an assistant parliamentarian on the recommendation of my legendary predecessor as Parliamentarian, Lewis Deschler; John McCormack, who shared his anecdotes and love of the House during long evening conversations in the Speaker's Rooms; Carl Albert, who had faith enough in my abilities to appoint me as Parliamentarian during a very tumultuous time in the history of the House and has continued to be a valued mentor since his retirement; Thomas P. 'Tip' O'Neill, whose good humor and warmth toward me survived some parliamentary decisions which he must have found vexing; Jim